AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A parts-management system comprising:

a terminal apparatus; and

a management apparatus for communicating with said terminal apparatus,

wherein said terminal apparatus includes:

a first memory which stores identification information of each part used in said terminal apparatus and an operation value corresponding to an operation of each part in a mutually related manner, and

a controller of said terminal apparatus which performs a predetermined operation processing corresponding to an operation of each part and updates said operation value stored in said first memory when said part operates, wherein said controller of said terminal apparatus updates, based on said identification information and said operation value of each part transmitted from said management apparatus, ~~and~~ the corresponding operation value of said identification information stored in said first memory;

a first transmitter which transmits said identification information of each part and said ~~an~~ operation value corresponding to said identification information to said management apparatus; and

a second transmitter which transmits a request signal for requesting a transmission of said ~~an~~ operation value for at least one part, and

wherein said management apparatus includes:

a second memory which stores said identification information of each part and said operation value each sent by said first transmitter in a mutually related manner; and

a third transmitter which transmits said identification information and said operation value each stored in said second memory to said terminal apparatus in response to said request signal.

2. (Original) The parts-management system as recited in claim 1, wherein said second memory stores a life value showing a life of each part.

3. (Original) The parts-management system as recited in claim 2, wherein said management apparatus further includes a fourth transmitter which transmits said life value to said terminal apparatus.

4. (Original) The parts-management system as recited in claim 3, wherein said terminal apparatus further includes a fifth transmitter which compares said operation value with said life value and transmits identification information of a part whose operation value exceeds said life value.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The parts-management system as recited in claim 1, wherein said second transmitter transmits a request signal for an equipped part when said part is equipped to said terminal apparatus.

7. (Original) The parts-management system as recited in claim 1, wherein said terminal apparatus is an image forming apparatus for forming an image on a sheet.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of managing parts for managing parts used in a terminal apparatus while conducting a data communication between said terminal apparatus and a ~~managing~~ management apparatus, wherein said terminal apparatus includes a first memory which stores identification information of each part used in said terminal apparatus and an operation value corresponding to an operation of each part in a mutually related manner, the method including the steps of:

performing a predetermined operation processing corresponding to an operation of each part to update said operation value stored in said first memory of said terminal apparatus when said part operates;

transmitting said identification information of each part and said operation value corresponding to said identification information from said terminal apparatus to said management apparatus;

storing in a second memory provided on said management apparatus said identification information of each part and said operation value transmitted from said terminal apparatus in a mutually related manner;

transmitting a request signal for requesting a transmission of said operation value for at least one part from said terminal apparatus to said management apparatus;

transmitting said identification information and said operation value for said requested part stored in said second memory of said management apparatus from said management apparatus to said terminal apparatus in response to said request signal; and

updating said operation value for said requested part stored in said first memory of said terminal apparatus based on said identification information and said operation value for said requested part transmitted from said management apparatus.

~~providing a terminal apparatus;~~

~~providing a management apparatus for communicating with said terminal apparatus;~~

~~including in said terminal apparatus a first memory for storing identification information of each part used in said terminal apparatus and an operation value corresponding to an operation of each part in a mutually related manner;~~

~~including in said terminal apparatus a controller for performing a predetermined operation processing corresponding to an operation of each part and updates said operation value stored in said memory when said part operates, wherein said controller of said terminal apparatus updates based on said identification information and said operation value of each part transmitted from said management apparatus and the corresponding operation value of said identification information stored in said first memory;~~

~~including in said terminal apparatus a first transmitter for transmitting said identification information of each part and an operation value corresponding to said identification information to said management apparatus; and~~

~~including in said terminal apparatus a second transmitter for transmitting a request signal for requesting a transmission of an operation value for at least one part,~~

~~wherein said management apparatus includes:~~

~~a second memory which stores said identification information of each part and said operation value each sent by said first transmitter in a mutually related manner; and~~

~~a third transmitter which transmits said identification information and said operation value each stored in said second memory to said terminal apparatus in response to said request signal.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The method of managing parts as recited in claim 8, wherein said second memory of said ~~managing~~ management apparatus stores a life value showing a life of each part.

10. (Original) The method of managing parts as recited in claim 9, further including the step of: transmitting said life value from said management apparatus to said terminal apparatus.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of managing parts as recited in claim 10, further including the step of:

comparing said operation value with said life value and transmitting said identification information of a part whose operation value exceeds said life value from said terminal apparatus to said management apparatus ~~in said terminal apparatus~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of managing parts as recited in claim 9, ~~wherein said management apparatus inputs~~ further including the step of :

inputting a signal concerning a cleaning of parts into said management apparatus and ~~updates~~ updating said stored life value in response to said signal.

13. (Original) The method of managing parts as recited in claim 8, wherein, in said step of transmitting said request signal, a request signal for a part equipped to said terminal apparatus is transmitted when said part is equipped to said terminal apparatus.

14. (Original) The method of managing parts as recited in claim 8, wherein said terminal apparatus is an image forming apparatus for forming an image on a sheet.

15. (Currently Amended) A parts-management apparatus which is capable of communicating with a terminal apparatus and manages parts used in said terminal apparatus, the parts-management apparatus comprising:

a memory for storing identification information of each part used in said terminal apparatus and an accumulated data corresponding to an operation of each part in a mutually related manner wherein said accumulated data includes data indicating the actual usage of each part over its life,

including the actual usage of each part that has been used in a plurality of apparatus;

updating means for updating said accumulated data based on data sent from said terminal apparatus; and

a transmitter which transmits at least one part identification information and its accumulated data each stored in said memory in response to a request signal from said terminal apparatus.

16. (Original) The parts-management apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein said memory stores a life value showing a life of each part, and wherein said transmitter further transmits said life value to said terminal apparatus.

17. (Original) The parts-management apparatus as recited in claim 16, further comprising a receiver for receiving a signal showing that a part is cleaned and updating said life value of a corresponding part in response to said received signal.